

I have contented myself, in this last reply, as no new facts or arguments had been produced by Mr. Forsyth, with referring to, and repeating, the protests and declarations contained in the preceding parts of my correspondence, and with recording my opinion, that an adherence to the line of conduct resolved upon by Her Majesty's Government for the defence of Her Majesty's rights, offers the only means of protecting those rights from being, in a continually-aggravated manner, encroached upon and violated. These additional documents, which I now inclose, have been communicated by the President to the Senate. They are referred, together with the rest of the correspondence, to the Senate's Committee of Foreign Affairs. No report from the Committee has yet been made, and no other proceedings had in Congress, excepting some additional speeches delivered by the Senators from Maine and Massachusetts, upon occasion of the communication of the last papers, in a tone, I was glad to perceive, of less hostility than before.

I shall now consider the correspondence as closed on my side, at least for the present, and unless I shall receive instructions from your Lordship to resume it. In continuing the correspondence, as the case now stands, I should only have to repeat again and again the same declarations that have been already made.

Her Majesty's Government cannot acquiesce in the arguments persisted in by Mr. Forsyth in his last official note here inclosed, either as regards the geographical limits of the Madawaska Settlement, or the extent of country over which, according to a fair construction of the provisional agreements of last year, the operations of the Maine Land Agent's *posse*, employed for the purpose of preventing depredations upon the public timber, were to be allowed to reach. But, on the other hand, the position of Her Majesty's Government has, in the course of the correspondence, been distinctly defined, and the line of conduct to which Her Majesty's Government are resolved to adhere, for the defence of Her Majesty's rights, pending the negotiation of the Boundary Question, has been made known to the Government, and to the people of the United States, in a manner sufficiently clear and decisive. I now feel confident that the intention of violently interrupting the negotiation has been laid aside by the State of Maine, and that the two Governments will, from henceforward, be left to conduct the controversy to its conclusion, in a tranquil and reasonable manner. And this being the case, I see no just cause for apprehending, that the controversy will end in war. Both Governments, and the great majority of both nations, desire to have peace. The danger hitherto has been, that an incidental collision on the border, growing out of the reckless violence of the authorities of Maine, would hurry the two countries into war, in contradiction to the will of their Governments. But I hope and believe, that there is less reason to apprehend such a result now, than at any previous period since the beginning of the Boundary excitement, fifteen months ago.

It will be remarked, that the United States Secretary of State, in his last note, dated the 25th instant, makes an attempt to deny that the hostile and violent intentions imputed to the State of Maine have ever been, in fact, entertained by the authorities or people of that State; and he endeavours, in consequence, to have it appear, that the protests and declarations of Her Majesty's Government have been uncalled for and vexatious; and the accompanying military preparations and precautions unnecessary; but, in this, Mr. Forsyth lays out of view the plain facts of the case; namely, that the protests and declarations for which Her Majesty's authorities are reproached, and the military preparations complained of, with the publicity given to both, are the exact means that have served to induce the people of Maine to desist from those acts of violence which there is no doubt they meditated.

The session of the State Legislature of Maine was adjourned on the 18th instant. The resolutions in relation to the Boundary dispute, of which I had the honour to inclose a copy in my despatch of the 17th instant, were passed, in substance, by the two Houses of the State Legislature, previously to their adjournment, after being in some degree modified. I have not yet, however, received a copy of the resolutions, in the exact form in which they were passed.

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